

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD'S 86TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, recently U.S. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD, D-W.Va., received the prestigious "Freedom from Fear" Medal from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park, N.Y.

Shakespeare warned us, "men close their doors against a setting sun." But, in the extraordinary moments of human endeavor, when light of liberty dares to fade, often only a single soul stands to embrace its care—a soul who has stood vigil through the night armed with reason, buoyed by history and strengthened by vision. This award and Senator BYRD's honor reflect his place in human history.

Today marks the 86th Birthday of West Virginia's finest. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD's personal life and his public service have consistently embraced the same principles: diligent work, constant improvement, unwavering commitment, unswerving honesty, and an overarching sense of history.

In his 86 years Senator BYRD has been a legislative craftsman, parliamentarian extraordinaire, skillful architect, master builder, visionary, dreamer, and doer. From teacher, scholar, mentor, leader, author, historian, and diplomat, Senator BYRD has borne many mantles throughout the years. But the one of which he is most proud, and perhaps cherishes the most, is that of being a West Virginian.

He has been a mentor to me, a pillar of strength for West Virginia, and a voice of reason for the Nation. After 86 years and five decades of service in Congress, his work is not yet done. The West Virginian of the Past Century is quickly forging a sterling legacy in the new one. And, as before, he is leading the way.

TRIBUTE TO BOB BOWERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Bob Bowers who passed away recently at the age of 74. Bob was a pillar of the Alamosa, Colorado community, and as his family mourns their loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate his contributions to our nation today.

Bob was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1929. As a young man, Bob answered our nation's call to duty and joined the United States Air Force, where he served honorably before moving to Colorado. Bob served the

state of Colorado for 25 years as a Health Inspector for the Colorado Department of Health. He married his wife Jo in 1948; they were married for 55 years.

Bob was very active in the Alamosa community. He was a volunteer for 4-H, the Boys and Girls Club, Share Colorado, the American Legion and the Alamosa Senior Citizens Center. Bob also served as a Boy Scout leader, where he passed along his outdoors skills, knowledge and morals to young people. Each year, Bob spent his winter holidays volunteering as Santa Clause for charitable organizations throughout the San Luis Valley. Bob was truly dedicated to bettering the lives of the citizens of Alamosa and many people there are better off as the result of his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication and selflessness that Bob Bowers has shown is certainly worthy of recognition before this body of Congress. It is my privilege to pay tribute to him for his contributions to the State of Colorado and our nation. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Bob's family and friends during this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO IRV KUPCINET— KNOWN TO MANY AS MR. CHICAGO

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it was virtually impossible to live in Chicago and not be affected by Irv KupcINET or Kup as he was fondly called. Kup knew everybody who had any public presence in Chicago and of course, knew powerful people and celebrities from around the world.

Kup was best known as a columnist for the Chicago Sun Times but was much more than a columnist, he was a communicator and used many mediums for that purpose. He had a television show, was a great emcee, was actively involved in civic, community, charitable and philanthropic activity. He was a fundraiser, a promoter, an icon, a legend.

Kup had the ability to make use of not only himself; but he was also able to rely upon others in very serious and strategic ways as he did with his assistant for 34 years, Ms. Stella Foster.

Kup was a creative genius who could take a mere occurrence and turn it into a great and glorious event. He was very open, comfortable and at ease with practically any and everybody. Kup grew up on the westside of Chicago, which is the heart of my Congressional District. He learned to walk with kings and queens; but never lost the common touch, yes, all men and women did matter with him but none too much. Over the years, Kup's column was distributed to more than 100 newspapers around the world. In 1982, he was elected to Chicago's Journalism Hall of Fame. He broadcast Chicago Bears Football games with Jack Brickhouse for 24 years, he ap-

peared in two movies and had a syndicated television program "The Tonight Show," which ran from 1959 to 1986 and at one point was on 70 stations.

Kup never forgot the community of his birth, north Lawndale in Chicago which had some transitions and fell upon hard times. Kup was a star athlete, played football on a team with former president Gerald Ford and was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles. Kup was many things to many people, but most of all he was husband and companion to his beloved wife Essee, father to his children, grandfather, son to his parents, brother to his siblings and friend to many.

There was nothing quite like being mentioned in Kup's column, and if you were on the scope, you'd eventually get there.

Yes, Kup walked with Kings, Queens, Presidents, Stars and Captains of business and industry, but never lost the common touch.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. HELEN EVERSON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Mrs. Helen Everson, who has been selected as Edgerton Rotary's Honored Citizen of the Year. Helen and her husband, Harland Everson, purchased the Edgerton Reporter, in 1951 and made the risky yet insightful decision to change from hot type to offset printing, the first paper in Wisconsin to do so. I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent whose life-long commitment to serving her community as an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and mother serves as a shining example to us all.

Helen was raised on a 5,000-acre sheep ranch in northwestern South Dakota and attended a two-room country school until her graduation. Helen's professional experience began at Keating Buick where she quickly gained greater responsibility and expertise and eventually became the Secretary-Treasurer of the car dealership.

Helen's life would change dramatically after she met and married Harland. The couple tackled the challenges of operating a growing and award-winning newspaper, in addition to raising a family. Harland and Helen's daughters, Carol and Diane, are both accomplished women in their own right. Carol is an associate professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Diane is the publisher of the Edgerton Reporter and past president of the National Newspaper Association.

Diane describes her mother as a "heat seeking missile with boundless energy." She is still a tireless advocate for civic development and the Edgerton community. Under her leadership of Edgerton's annual Tobacco Heritage Days, the celebration grew in popularity and became profitable for the first time. For an

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